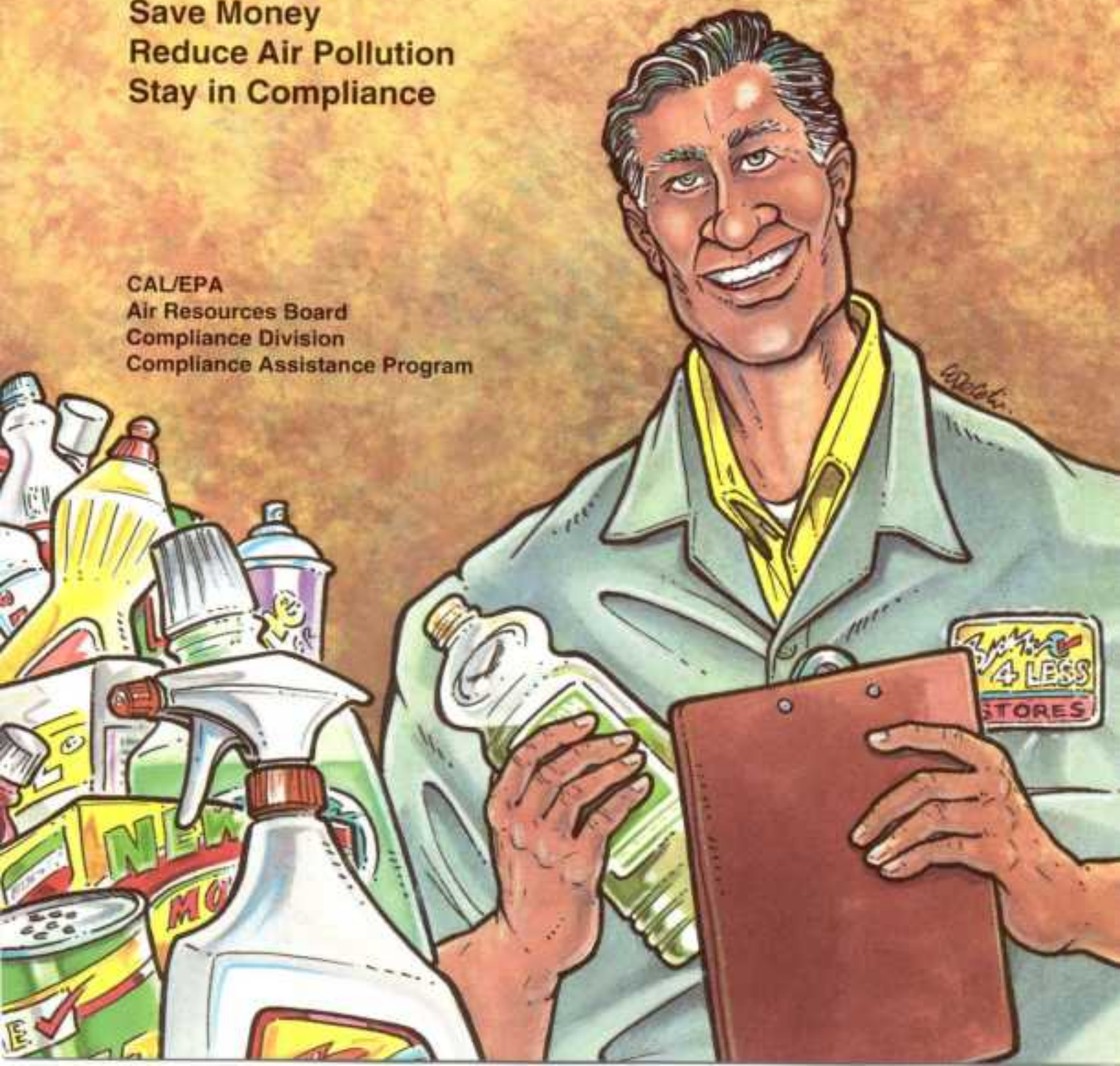


# Consumer Products Self-Inspection Handbook

Know the Law  
Save Money  
Reduce Air Pollution  
Stay in Compliance

CAL/EPA  
Air Resources Board  
Compliance Division  
Compliance Assistance Program





# COMPLIANCE ASSISTANCE?



This handbook is about new regulations affecting consumer products. It is designed to help you understand the laws and tell you how you can benefit from compliance. It contains a simplified summary of the regulations which reduce air pollution emissions from consumer products, including antiperspirants and deodorants. For a complete copy of the regulations, please consult Sections 94500 *et seq.* of Title 17 of the California Code of Regulations (CCR). Read on and see how to stay in compliance!

# WHY REDUCE AIR POLLUTION?

Air pollution comes from many sources. It affects millions of people every day. Throughout the state, on many days, we can actually see air pollution. Visible or not, it affects all of us, with every breath we take.

Smog is a major air pollution problem in California. Ozone, the major ingredient in smog, irritates your lungs and eyes, makes breathing difficult, and even damages vegetation and man-made structures.



Some compounds used in consumer products are major players in forming ozone. These are known as "volatile organic compounds" (VOCs), and they react with the oxides of nitrogen molecules in the air to produce ozone.

The VOCs from consumer products play a significant role in the formation of ozone. You can do your part to reduce air pollution and help meet your legal responsibility by checking with your supplier(s) to make certain the products you are selling comply with the California Air Resources Board's regulations.



# WHAT ARE CONSUMER PRODUCTS?



Consumer products are chemically formulated products used by household and institutional customers. Some examples are: hair sprays, engine degreasers, antiperspirants and deodorants, air fresheners, windshield washer fluids, household cleaners, disinfectants, floor cleaning and finishing products, and home and garden products. For specific product categories, please see the Table of Standards, beginning on page seven.

# WHY REGULATE CONSUMER PRODUCTS?



Consumer products emit about **260 tons per day** of VOCs in California alone. A recent study in the New England Journal of Medicine concluded that even small amounts of exposure to air pollution can shorten lives by up to two years. The good news is that by establishing standards for maximum VOC content of consumer products, the California Air Resources Board expects to reduce these emissions 50 percent by the year 2000, providing a healthier environment for everyone!



# WHO NEEDS TO COMPLY?



**Manufacturers and marketers** need to comply by reducing the VOC of their products to meet the California standards.

**Distributors and wholesalers** need to comply by marketing only the products in California that meet these standards.

**Retailers** need to comply by selling only those products that are in compliance with the standards.

**Consumers** can affect market trends by purchasing the lowest VOC product available, using the general guidelines given on pages seven through nine.



# WHAT HAPPENS IF I DON'T COMPLY?



# VOC Standards for Consumer Products

No person shall sell, supply, offer for sale, or manufacture for sale in California any consumer product which, at the time of sale or manufacture, contains volatile organic compounds in excess of the limits specified in the following Table of Standards after the specified effective dates.

## Table of Standards

Percent Volatile Organic Compounds by Weight

Product Category	Effective Date(s)			Future Effective (Date)
	1/1/93	1/1/94	1/1/95	
Aerosol Cooking Sprays			18	
Air Fresheners				30 (1/1/96)
Single Phase Aerosols	70			
Double Phase Aerosols	30			
Liquids/Pump Sprays	18			
Solids/Gels	3			
Dual Purpose: Air Freshener/ Disinfectant Aerosols		60		
Antiperspirant				
Aerosol	80*		10*	
All Other Forms	0			
Automotive Brake Cleaners				50 (1/1/97)
Automotive Windshield Washer Fluids:				
Type A Areas**	35			
All Other Areas	10			
Bathroom and Tile Cleaners				
Aerosols		7		
All Other Forms		5		
Carburetor-Choke Cleaners			75	

\* For VOC breakdown, see CCR Title 17, Section 94502(a)

\*\* Type A areas include the following: Del Norte, Shasta and Trinity Counties; the Great Basin Valley, Lake Tahoe, Mountain Counties, and Northeast Plateau Air Basin.



**Table of Standards** (continued)  
Percent Volatile Organic Compounds by Weight

Product Category	Effective Date(s)			Future Effective (Date)
	1/1/93	1/1/94	1/1/95	
Deodorant				
Aerosol	40*		10*	
All Other Forms	0			
Dusting Aids				
Aerosol			35	25 (1/1/97)
All Other Forms			7	
Engine Degreasers	75			50 (1/1/96)
Fabric Protectants			75	60 (1/1/97)
Floor Polishes/Waxes				
Products for Flexible Flooring Materials		7		
Products for Nonresilient Flooring		10		
Wood Floor Wax		90		
Furniture Maintenance Products				
Aerosols		25		
All Others But Solid or Paste Forms		7		
General Purpose Cleaners		10		
Glass Cleaners				
Aerosols	12			
All Other Forms	8			6 (1/1/96)
Hairsprays	80			55 (1/1/98)
Hair Mousses		16		
Hair Styling Gels		6		
Household Adhesives				
Aerosol			75	25 (1/1/97)
Contact			80	
Construction and Panel			40	
General Purpose			10	

\* For VOC breakdown, see CCR Title 17, Section 94502(a)

**Table of Standards** (continued)  
Percent Volatile Organic Compounds by Weight

Product Category	<u>Effective Date(s)</u>			Future Effective (Date)
	1/1/93	1/1/94	1/1/95	
Insect Repellants -- Aerosols		65		
Insecticides				20 (1/1/98)
Crawling Bug			40	
Flea and Tick			25	
Flying Bug			35	
Foggers			45	
Lawn and Garden			20	
Laundry Prewash				
Aerosols/Solids		22		
All Other Forms		5		
Laundry Starch Products			5	
Nail Polish Removers		85		75 (1/1/96)
Oven Cleaners				
Aerosols/Pump Sprays	8			
Liquids	5			
Personal Fragrance Products				
Products with 20% or Less Fragrance			80	75 (1/1/99)
Products with More Than 20% Fragrance			70	65 (1/1/99)
Shaving Creams		5		
Charcoal Lighter Material***				

\*\*\* Certified by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD) and registered with ARB.



# INSPECTION ACTIVITIES



The California Health and Safety Code Section 41712 gives the Air Resources Board authority to regulate consumer products. The Air Resources Board also has the authority to sample and test consumer products for compliance.

Health and Safety Code, Section 41510, states:

"For the purpose of enforcing or administering any state or local law, order, regulation, or rule relating to air pollution, the executive officer of the state board or any air pollution control officer having jurisdiction, or an authorized representative of such officer . . . shall have the right of entry to any premises on which an air pollution emission source is located for the purpose of inspecting such source, including securing samples of emissions therefrom, or any records required to be maintained in connection therewith by the state board or any district."

# VIOLATIONS ARE COSTLY!!



**Violations cost money.** The fine for violating air pollution regulations can be up to \$50,000 per day. Every day a noncomplying product is offered for sale, the company may be considered in violation.

Be aware of all local requirements. Air pollution regulations are law, so take the time to understand them and prevent violations. Remember, stocking your inventory with the newest complying products helps to avoid fines ... and helps provide a healthier environment.



# DIVERTED PRODUCTS



Some manufacturers make products that don't comply with California's VOC standards and are not intended to be sold in the state. Knowing their potential liability, these manufacturers go to great lengths to keep these products from entering our markets.

However, noncomplying products carried outside normal distribution channels can slip past the "roadblocks" designed to keep them out of California.

Retailers and distributors should pay close attention to any product where the manufacturer's label or container has been altered or defaced. Noncomplying products with batch codes removed (usually from the container bottom) are the most common.

The ARB would appreciate receiving any information about suspect consumer products.

# WHO TO CONTACT . . .

For Consumer Product Regulations Information:

*If you're a:*

**MANUFACTURER,  
DISTRIBUTOR,  
CONSUMER OR  
RETAILER...**



You Can Call the ARB Compliance Division at

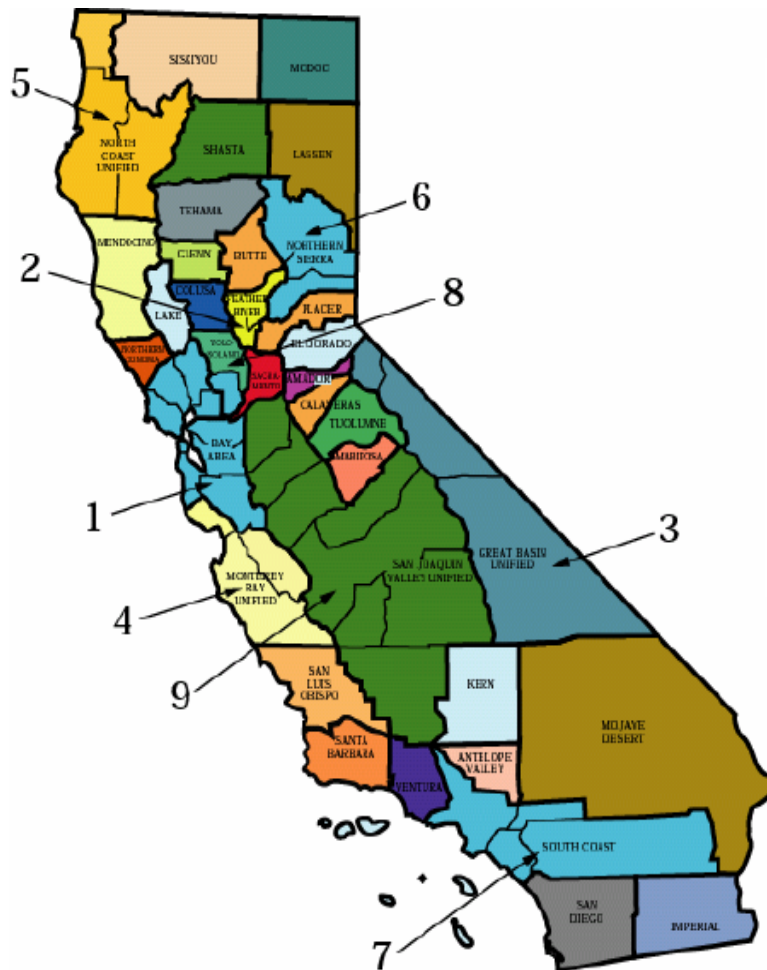
**(800) 952-5588**



# Need More Information?

Air Resources Board (800) 952-5588

District: \_\_\_\_\_



## Multi-County Districts

- 1 - Bay Area (415) 749-5000
- 2 - Feather River (530) 634-7659
- 3 - Great Basin (760) 872-8211
- 4 - Monterey Bay (831) 647-9411
- 5 - North Coast (707) 443-3093
- 6 - Northern Sierra (530) 274-9360
- 7 - South Coast (909) 396-2000
- 8 - Yolo-Solano (530) 757-3650
- 9 - San Joaquin Valley (559) 230-6000

## County Districts

Amador (209) 257-0112	Lake (707) 263-7000	San Diego (858) 650-4700
Antelope Valley (661) 723-8070	Lassen (530) 251-8110	San Luis Obispo (805) 781-4247
Butte (530) 891-2882	Mariposa (209) 966-2220	Santa Barbara (805) 961-8800
Calaveras (209) 754-6504	Mendocino (707) 463-4354	Shasta (530) 225-5789
Colusa (530) 458-0590	Modoc (530) 233-6419	Siskiyou (530) 841-4029
El Dorado (530) 621-6662	Mojave Desert (760) 245-1661	Tehama (530) 527-3717
Glenn (530) 934-6500	No. Sonoma (707) 433-5911	Tuolumne (209) 533-5693
Imperial (760) 482-4606	Placer (530) 889-7130	Ventura (805) 645-1400
Kern (661) 862-5250	Sacramento (916) 874-4800	

94-026

COPYRIGHT © California Air Resources Board  
PO Box 2815, Sacramento, CA 95812

<http://www.arb.ca.gov>

<http://www.arb.ca.gov/training/training.htm>

California Environmental Protection Agency

 **Air Resources Board**



printed on recycled paper